

Hawaiian Gazette

EST MODUS IN REBUS.

TEN-PAGE EDITION.

TUESDAY, MARCH 4, 1890.

We publish in this morning's issue the full report of the Postal Savings Bank for the year 1889, and recommend it to the careful perusal of our readers.

CHINESE IMMIGRATION.

The ministerial reply on the Chinese question has attracted deserved attention abroad, as the article reprinted in our columns from the Sydney Daily Telegraph shows. While this article is not entirely free from error, its comments are in the main just. It is a mistake, however, to suppose that this is a country naturally less in need of protection from Chinese immigration than others. On the contrary there is none which naturally needs such protection more. America and Australia have a territory of vast size, with large quantities of unused arable land, with a sparse population, a wealth of undeveloped resources, and a constantly and rapidly growing demand for labor. All these conditions tend to mitigate the evils arising from the competition of cheap labor. In the very nature of the case, the influx of Chinese might continue for a generation before it could assume really dangerous proportions.

With us here the case is entirely different. Our country is a mere dot on the surface of the ocean, our total population, a trifle, our market for labor necessarily so limited that the influx of a few thousand men at any time would glut it. In the United States and the British colonies, the matter is merely one of dealing with a more or less serious inconvenience. With us it is a struggle for existence. There is absolutely nothing to prevent an incursion of Chinese into this Kingdom which would actually swamp its entire foreign, as well as native population, and reduce it to the position of a dependency of the Chinese Empire. The different industrial conditions prevailing in Asiatic countries make this kind of peaceful invasion and conquest perfectly possible for any race possessing the requisite energy. That the Chinese possess this energy has been abundantly demonstrated. That the hardship and pressure of their existence at home make immigration a necessity is equally well known. The question which Hawaii has to face is a much more serious one than that which knocks at the doors of other nations. Shall we allow the light of western civilization, which has so lately dawned on these Islands, to be extinguished? No fact is more certain than that civilization is dependent on economical conditions. Europe cannot sink to China's industrial level without exchanging her light for China's half-light. It is no exaggeration to say that the very existence of everything which makes our lives worthy and worth living, is involved in the Chinese question as it presents itself here. This is not at all true, or not true in anything like the same degree, in any other land. If we, under such circumstances, have not the right to legislate in our own defence, then the right of self preservation must in very truth be obsolete.

Every nation has a right to fight for whatever it has achieved worth preserving. In this struggle it is of course bound to preserve a due regard for the rights of other nations. But the most zealous advocate of the doctrine of "inborn" rights, never pretended that the right to leave one's home and settle in the territory of a foreign power without that power's consent, was one of the inborn rights. It has always been customary to lay disabilities of various kinds on foreign residents, and while the more liberal and human spirit of modern times has led in a large measure to the abolition of such disabilities, it is still competent to any government to revive them, whenever it does so in the interests of civilization. This is the basis of our moral right to legislate against Chinese immigration. It is the fact that the interests of our civilization are bound up with those of our working class. The social problem, the economical problem, is the problem of civilization itself. This is a truth which thinkers are coming to see, and which is beginning to be felt in ever widening circles. When we legislate to protect the interests and improve the condition of the laboring class, we are working for civilization.

MODERN AMAZONS.

One of the most thorough raids on a saloon ever made by American women, if report be true, occurred lately in a Western city. The doomed liquor seller was warned beforehand, and like Bishop Hatlo he barred his door and fondly imagined that he was safe. Not so. In both cases the invaders came in at the windows. The liquor seller was not reduced to a skeleton like his German progenitor, but his windows were smashed, his glasses wrecked, his beloved kegs and barrels and casks stove in, while their death dealing contents went to swell the streams in the gutter. A companion liquor seller was served likewise and three refractory druggists were cowed into submission. Moral roused womanhood can enforce the laws quicker than all your marshals, courts and sheriffs.

It would be an error to suppose, however, that American women enjoy a monopoly in these deeds of violence. The very same mail which brought the account of the scene above described, contained also a stirring narrative of a contest presenting some analogous features among the Polish residents of Buffalo. Many of the women were dissatisfied with the priest who was appointed to preside over their consciences. No peaceful and religious remedy suggesting itself, they resolved on a summary process which in default of legal aid they resolved to serve themselves. Gathering in large numbers around the church they refused the obnoxious ecclesiastical ingress into the sacred building. A lively scene followed, and as the police were instructed not to use their batons or their fists the women had things all their own way, and held high carnival for a while, a vigorous charge of salt and pepper judiciously discharged at the eyes of their obtrusive foes, finally drove them away and left these modern Amazons victoriously masters of the field. These excesses are certainly curiosities of history, and deserve to rank with the most celebrated of their kind, with the "power" at the negro camp meetings, or the St. Vitus' dance of mediæval times.

The chivalry towards the weaker sex which marks the attitude of the stranger, is hardly likely to last long, if it is often so injudiciously abused.

Stormy scenes seem to be epidemic across the water. We read of a German church in Cincinnati in which serious differences of doctrine finally led to an effort at adjustment by arms. The church was divided against itself, the factions resolving themselves into a "liberal" and an orthodox wing, each of which felt itself in possession of the truth, and disposed with a dangerous literalness to beat it into the obstreperous party. In this case, also, women were free participants.

REV. J. N. PAIKULI.

The Court decided Tuesday that Rev. J. N. Paikuli was guilty of both the offences with which he was charged under the new election law.

There was much in the case that was peculiar but on the whole the charges were made out by abundance of proof. Mr. Paikuli's own written statement, with which curiously enough his evidence given in Court does not entirely agree, are enough to convict him.

It is on many accounts fortunate that a case has so soon arisen under the new law, for it will convince everyone, and politicians in particular, that the election law is not intended to be a dead letter, and that a new order of things has actually begun. The law needs all the friends that it can command and it needs not merely their passive approval but their active support. It is sufficiently ahead of the average conscience of the average politician to stand in serious danger of being allowed to fall into disuse. Fortunately political opponents are likely to be very watchful of each other's steps and very sure to know when the enemy makes a false one. From now on, it will not be unreasonable to hope that the loose practices formerly in vogue here will be put an end to.

The sentence of the Court under the first charge has been somewhat misunderstood. Mr. Paikuli in that case was convicted of a merely technical failure to comply with the provisions of the law. No evidence of any illegal or criminal intent on his part was offered. While this is true, it is also true that it was necessary to have it definitely understood that the section requiring from every candidate a sworn statement of expenditures must be literally com-

plied with. This is one of the most valuable features of the Act and it was simply out of the question to allow failures to comply with it to pass unnoticed, on the very first occasion of the statute's operation. To secure the object required, a simple conviction was all sufficient, and the prosecution asked for a nominal penalty, which was fixed by the court. If the lesson is generally understood the object of the proceedings, so far as the public is concerned, will have been attained.

The object of the election law is to bring our politics up to a higher plane. The experience of England, Australia and some of the United States have abundantly demonstrated, to the confusion of all professional politicians, the utility and necessity of such legislation. Our law is not perfect, but it is good; and it should be the earnest effort of all parties to secure its enforcement in practice as well as its improvement by further amendment. There is only one way to secure the enforcement of laws like this. It is to be eternally vigilant. Politics in common with other human things, but more than they are subject to an incessant and dangerous tendency to deterioration. No election law in the world can eradicate this tendency, but it can do much to neutralize its evils.

Mr. Paikuli's offence was not one so short a time as two years ago. It is an offence created and defined by the new law. This does not imply that it was not objectionable and wrong then, as well as now. The practice of hiring an indefinite number of lunas for a small pecuniary consideration, has always shaded into bribery, and in many cases virtually was bribery. Every new luna meant one vote more secured, and in small districts where there were many lunas and few voters, victory tended naturally to the side of many lunas. This is a case where no one can afford to cast the first stone, hiring lunas being the orthodox practice of all parties without exception. The new law was intended among other things, to abolish this shady practice. Mr. Paikuli has adhered to the old tradition, under circumstances of the shadiest—and has in consequence violated one of the salient and important provisions. His conviction is a natural and desirable consequence, if the law is to be upheld.

THE PUNCHBOWL ROAD.

The absurd statement of our esteemed evening contemporary with regard to the Punchbowl road is only a sample of a great deal of loose talk in which the disgruntled are in the habit of indulging. As a matter of fact the recent road-making of the Government is standing the test of rain and wear quite as well as any reasonable man ever expected. Mr. John Phillips declared publicly during the election (and the Bulletin has fondly echoed him ever since) that the Punchbowl road was a fair weather ditch which the first hard rain would wash away. Mr. Phillips perhaps relied on his hearers not patronizing, and hence not knowing anything about the condition of the Punchbowl road, for, as a matter of fact, the country had already been deluged with two hard rains, and the road was still in excellent condition, in a condition that is equally satisfying to the traveler and exasperating to the chronic growler.

We have now had another hard downpour, and the road is still not washed away, a state of affairs so vexatious to the prophets of evil that they can hardly be blamed for manufacturing a little evidence.

As a matter of fact the roads are in very good condition, considering what has been spent on them. Doubtless if Mr. Phillips or the Bulletin had passed the last appropriation bill we should have had a broad, substantial avenue up Punchbowl, solidly paved, perhaps tiled, balustraded and gilt-edged. But of course the Volcano road would have been as far from completion as ever, and so would every other internal improvement completed or commenced by the Reform party. The economy of the present administration has simply consisted in making the funds appropriated by the Legislature to specified objects go as far towards the accomplishments of those objects as possible. It is the kind of economy which the law requires of Ministers of the Crown and the kind which is practiced by all successful business men in the conduct of their private affairs.

If a private citizen has a limited amount of money and a large number of pressing needs—he divides his resources so as to meet all those

needs—and does not sacrifice some to others. A government does the same. If we had postponed the Punchbowl road and three or four other needed improvements, we might have macadamized the road to the volcano, but such a course would have been exceedingly foolish. The Punchbowl road as it actually stands, with all its imperfection on its head is an immense addition to the attractiveness of Honolulu, and not the least of its advantages is that it was got so cheap that it did not need to be paid for by the sacrifice of other needed improvements. Future Legislatures can and probably will vote funds to improve it, as they have done and will still continue to do with regard to all other roads and public improvements, and as other countries have done and continue to do. No country ever got good roads all at once. The New York Central did not lay its four tracks all at the same time. The roads of this country will probably grow better and more numerous by the process of gradual development which governs all other human affairs.

This week, Saturday, the pupils of Kawaiahao Seminary will give a concert at Kawaiahao Church. The proceeds are to aid in building the hospital, which is to be erected in the grounds of the school. The girls at Kawaiahao Seminary are receiving very thorough and competent as well as careful and patient instruction in singing, and the results show it. Very few persons in Honolulu, we are sure, are at all aware how well they sing. Mr. Berger's string orchestra will also tend to assistance, and an especially agreeable and interesting feature of the occasion will be a new song composed by Mrs. Dominis. If this concert is patronized as it deserves to be, on its merits as well as with reference to its objects, it will be a success.

CORRESPONDENCE.

We do not hold ourselves responsible for the statements made, or opinions expressed by our correspondents.

The Veto Power.

MR. EDITOR: Some of our friends who would like to restore to the King his veto power, for the ostensible reason that it would be a source of safety to the country in the event of there being a corrupt legislature, must confess to having very short memories and a willingness to attempt a very poor job at pulling wool over peoples' eyes, or else admit their inability to offer any valid reason therefore.

They ignore the fact that the reform movement which resulted in the adoption of the present Constitution which withholds the veto power from the King, was the direct result of his dogged persistency in making a bad use of his power, and entirely overlook the fact amply demonstrated by this same course, that the possession of the veto power may be used with equal facility to promote evil as well as suppress it. They aver that they have no great fault to find with the Government that has in full sincerity of purpose and not a little success, put forth its best endeavors to instill true life and vigor into the country they have served the passed two years, but with wonderful naïve and amazing solicitude for the welfare of the dear country, they propose to protect it from the ravages of possible bad legislators, by restoring the power of veto to one who exercised it when he had it, to the verge of costing the Kingdom its independence.

We confess to being unable to see a true heart behind this style of logic. Let us have something that will hold water.

St. Andrew's Cathedral.

Following is the report of Mr. Henry Smith, Treasurer of the Board of Trustees of St. Andrew's Cathedral, of the Cathedral building fund for the year 1889:

Total indebtedness Jan. 1, 1889, \$8,592 88

RECEIPTS.
Loan negotiated Feb. 5, 1889, 7,180 00
S. P. C. K. grant of \$500, 2,438 54
Small sums, 11 84
\$9,628 38

EXPENDITURES.

Amount due contractor, 7,181 84
Amount due treasurer, 1,461 04
Balance forward reduction of loan, 1,035 50
\$9,628 38

The balance sheet of the Bishop's congregation for the year 1889 shows receipts \$992 93; expenditures \$1,031 47; balance due \$38 54. The offerings of the Sunday school scholars amounted to \$46 40 during 1889 which was paid to the Chinese Mission fund. The receipts of St. Andrew's sewing society for the year 1889 were \$615 70. Of this amount \$494 50 was paid towards the Cathedral building fund, \$67 85 is in the Postal Savings Bank, \$24 85 was spent for material and other expenses, and the balance in hand is \$28 50.

The receipts for the Chinese mission fund during 1889 were \$309 30, expenditures \$300 35, leaving a balance on hand of \$8 95.

The late William Bromley Barnes had left to the Bishop for church purposes the sum of \$700. The widow had a life interest in the amount, but she died in January of this year and the amount has been turned over to the Bishop by the executor and trustee Hon. S. M. Damon.

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